

Department of Justice

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KERN COUNTY PAIR PLEAD GUILTY TO CONSPIRACY TO COUNTERFEIT U.S. CURRENCY

FRESNO – United States Attorney McGregor W. Scott announced today that THOMAS GILBERT WILSON, 34, and ALMA LORENA CABRERA, 26, of Delano, California, pleaded guilty on September 8, 2008 to one felony count of conspiring to manufacture and possess counterfeit currency and to possess images for counterfeiting. The guilty plea was entered before Chief United States District Judge Anthony W. Ishii.

This case is the product of a joint investigation by the Fresno Resident Office of the United States Secret Service and the Delano Police Department.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Kirk Sherriff, who prosecuted the case, WILSON and CABRERA admitted in their guilty pleas that in March and April 2008 they conspired to manufacture counterfeit currency, to possess counterfeit currency, and to possess images of United States currency for counterfeiting purposes. The defendants acquired digital and electronic images of United States currency, and then used computer equipment to manufacture counterfeit currency from such images.

WILSON and CABRERA are scheduled to be sentenced by Chief Judge Ishii on November 17, 2008, at 9:00 a.m. WILSON and CABRERA each face a maximum of five years imprisonment. However, the actual sentences will be determined at the discretion of the court after consideration of the Federal Sentencing Guidelines, which take into account a number of variables, and any applicable statutory sentencing factors.